Leavy of fuel congestion surcharge by Private operators

2886. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that all private domestic airlines have decided to levy Fuel Congestion Surcharge on passengers on account of aircraft circling over Delhi and Mumbai airports;

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take on the arbitrary decision of private airline operators imposing uncalled for surcharge on passengers;

(c) whether it is a fact that Indian Oil Corporation and other petroleum companies have decided to reduce prices of ATF on account of drop in international crude prices; and

(d) if so, whether Government would impress upon the private airlines to reduce prices *suo moto* in line with fall in international ATF prices and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) While airlines have been levying fuel surcharge for some time to offset the rise in ATF prices, it has come to the knowledge of the Government that some airlines have introduced a congestion surcharge in addition.

(b) Domestic air fares are not regulated by the Government after the repeal of Air Corporation Act, 1953. Domestic airlines are free to charge air fares as per their commercial judgement.

(c) Yes, Sir. the average domestic ATF price has declined by about 8% from Rs. 42300/ Kilolitre in October, 2006 to Rs. 38800/ Kilolitre in November, 2006.

(d) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

Security Gadgets for Airports

2887. SHRI M. V MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are planning to introduce high technology materials for effective security at all domestic international airports of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the necessary steps being taken by Government to implement the above material at all airport; and

(d) the estimated cost likely to be incurred on the above ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes. Sir.lt has been decided to take immediate action for induction of additional security technologies for upgrading the security at the airports. These are, deployment of online X-ray baggage screening system at all the airports in a phased manner starting with the international airports, to install/improve coverage of CCTV at all the airports beginning with hyper sensitive airports, installation of Biometic system commencing with hyper sensitive airports, installation of Perimeter intrusion security system at all hyper sensitive airports to start with Mumbai, Kolkata, Delhi, Chennai, Bangalore and Hyderabad airports, installation of explosive detection system commencing with all hyper sensitive airports.

(c) Concerned agencies have been directed ro upgrade the security systems at the airports as desired at (b).

(d) Upgradation of security system at the airports will be implemented in a phased manner as such at this stage it is not possible to estimate the cost of upgradation.

City side development of Non-Metro Airports

2888. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that plans to commercially exploit and develop the city side area at 35 non-metro airports through Public-Private Partnership (PPP) have hit a road block as the Ministry has discovered that not enough land is available at around 15 of these airports;

(b) whether it is also a fact that as a result only 20 of these airports are likely to be put up for bids for cityside developments ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) It has been decided that the Civil Enclaves at Defence airfields as well as airports located in remote areas will be developed by Airports Authority of India (AAI). Eight of the 35 Non-Metro airports come under